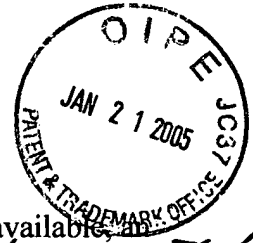


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switched to color camera mode. The infrared illumination 902 is switched off. If available, an appropriate level of artificial visible light 904 can be switched on. The iris control ~~950~~ provides the required level of light to be gathered by the camera, ~~and allows optimal focal length 931.~~ The lens control 960 governs mono camera zoom 932 and mono depth of field 933 and color zoom 970 and color depth of field 971 selections depending on interactive choice by the user, or on preset reactions 944 for the system to various types of event within the surveilled field. The motion sensing 950 provides input to the lens control and to the infrared illumination 902 via the camera and illumination control module 995 that decides whether to activate the mono camera 100 or the color camera 200 and selects the video signal output 974 for transmission by wireless media 975. A video and data compression / decompression module 976 can be embedded in the media processes.

optimal focal length / depth of field 271 is achieved by

The energy management module 990 tracks battery power 991, ambient energy availability 992, and motion sensing. In response to the information provided, the energy management module 990 will switch on the charging circuit 993 when appropriate, and will also give system energy availability information 994 to the camera and illumination control module 995 and the transceiver 996, to reduce the number of video frames per second processed or transmitted in order to conserve power consumption when necessary.

Intermittent infrared illumination and intermittent picture transmission can thus be used instead of constant illumination and continual video transmission to vastly cut the power consumption during periods of low activity in the field of vision of the system, or during periods of low battery

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DUAL CAMERA SURVEILLANCE AND CONTROL SYSTEM

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

~~The present invention provides a~~ dual camera surveillance and control system. ~~The system~~ comprises a high sensitivity mono camera with enhanced infrared response, an infrared illuminator array for zero ambient light surveillance, and a color camera that does not need to be enhanced in the infra red spectrum, ~~The system also comprises~~ ambient light level sensing, video signal switching technology and power conversion circuitry, ~~The system combines~~ optimized mono imaging under low or no light conditions ^{and} optimized color rendered imaging during high ambient light conditions, with both ^{imaging modes} achieving high quality focus. The dual camera nature of the system is transparent to the user due to the integrated automated control of the system, and allows reduced power consumption, making the system suitable for a wireless, remote, self-contained system that draws power from the ambient environment.

it is well-known that the more a lens iris is stopped down the greater the depth of field, which is related in the inverse proportion to the focal length of the lens;

c) elements 950 and 960 are shown on Figure 3, along with connecting arrows and a correction to a typo in element 933;

3. Enclosed are a set of revised Claims, in which the points re antecedents and indefiniteness in Claims 11, 14, and 16 – 19 are corrected;

4. Regarding the anticipation objections under 35 USC 103 (e) and the obviousness objections under 35 USC 103 (e) based on Schofield (which the applicant notes was not published until after the present application was filed):

a) with respect to Claim 6, Schofield's paragraphs 0265, 0391 and 0376 do not disclose a switch of mode from daylight to infrared night-light operation without a focal shift. Schofield describes commonplace auto-focussing of a lens in his paragraphs but not disclose switching without a focal shift.

b) with respect to Claim 7, Schofield's paragraphs 0247 and 0328 do not disclose an auto iris control board that independently controls an iris in each independent lens. Schofield merely points out that any camera in his rear-view system can have an iris that is user-adjustable.

c) with respect to Claim 8, Schofield's paragraph 0376 does not disclose a video output signal is

switched from mono to color depending on the ambient light levels. Schofield merely discloses switching from a color camera to a mono camera. There is no mention of video output signal switching. Schofield's system is all local and is not concerned with surveillance via a remote camera as in the present invention.

d) with respect to Claim 4, Schofield nowhere describes the the monochrome camera as being supercharged for infrared sensitivity.

e) with respect to Claims 1 – 3, Schofield does not disclose a discrete dual camera surveillance and control system for general remote surveillance, but rather discloses a number of the components of the present invention for use embedded in a rear-view system in vehicles.

5. Regarding the obviousness objections to Claims 1 – 4, 5, 6 – 8, and 9 – 19 under 35 USC 103(a) based on Schofield:

a) notwithstanding that patent application being held up as valid prior art (the Schofield application was not published until after the application was made for the present invention), the patent, being for a rear-view vehicular system is not in an area that would motivate the present applicant / inventor to modify the reference, nor is there a suggestion in the knowledge generally available in the field of surveillance, to combine vehicle rear-view mirror technology with general remote camera surveillance.

b) the Schofield patent application is not a prior disclosure that an inventor in the field of the

present invention would come across even if its deemed retroactive effective date extended back as far its provisional application in March, 2000, because that its cursory related disclosures are buried in various places in an enormous patent application in Class 348/148 about rear-view and mirror technology for vehicles, which is a very specialized field not of general interest in the field of remote camera surveillance systems.

6. Regarding the obviousness objections to Claims 5 and 9 under 35 USC 103 (a) based on Wang, an inventor in the field of surveillance cameras would likewise be unlikely to consult or to be aware of a printing press invention in Class 101/171. He would therefore not be motivated to combine the Wang reference with Schofield. Those references themselves contain no suggestion to combine them.

7. Regarding the obviousness objections to Claims 10, 12, and 13 under 35 USC 103 (a) based on Carter, an inventor in the field of surveillance cameras would likewise be unlikely to consult or to be aware of a dealer information transmitter system in Class 34/539.17 such as Carter's; He would therefore not be motivated to combine the Carter reference with Schofield. Those references themselves contain no suggestion to combine them.

8. Regarding the obviousness objections to Claims 11 and 14 under 35 USC 103 (a) based on Carter and Courtney, an inventor in the field of surveillance cameras would likewise be unlikely to consult or to be aware of a dealer information transmitter system in Class 34/539.17 such as Carter's. He would therefore not be motivated to combine the Carter reference with Courtney

and Schofield. Those references themselves contain no suggestion to combine them.

9. Regarding the obviousness objections to Claim 15 under 35 USC 103 (a) based on Carter and Monroe, an inventor in the field of surveillance cameras would likewise be unlikely to consult or to be aware of a dealer information transmitter system in Class 34/539.17 such as Carter's, or a multiple location detector system for monitoring vehicles in Class 340/521 such as Monroe's. He would therefore not be motivated to combine the Carter and Monroe references with Schofield. Those references themselves contain no suggestion to combine them.

10. Regarding the obviousness objections to Claim 16 under 35 USC 103 (a) based on Carter and Barker, an inventor in the field of surveillance cameras would likewise be unlikely to consult or to be aware of a dealer information transmitter system in Class 34/539.17 such as Carter's, or a lightning detection system in Class 348/159 such as Barker's. He would therefore not be motivated to combine the Carter and Barker references with Schofield. Those references themselves contain no suggestion to combine them.

11. Regarding the obviousness objections to Claim 17 under 35 USC 103 (a) based on Carter, Monroe, Barker and Courtney, an inventor in the field of surveillance cameras would likewise be unlikely to consult or to be aware of a dealer information transmitter system in Class 34/539.17 such as Carter's, a multiple location detector system for monitoring vehicles in Class 340/521 such as Monroe's, or a lightning detection system in Class 348/159 such as Barker's. He would therefore not be motivated to combine the Carter, Monroe, Barker and Courtney references with Schofield. Those references themselves contain no suggestion to combine them.

12. Regarding the obviousness objections to Claim 18 under 35 USC 103 (a) based on Wang, Courtney, Barker and Monroe, an inventor in the field of surveillance cameras would likewise be unlikely to consult or to be aware of a consult or to be aware of a printing press invention in Class 101/171 such as Wang's, a multiple location detector system for monitoring vehicles in Class 340/521 such as Monroe's, or a lightning detection system in Class 348/159 such as Barker's. He would therefore not be motivated to combine the Courtenay, Monroe, and Barker references with Schofield. Those references themselves contain no suggestion to combine them.

13. Regarding the obviousness objections to Claim 19 under 35 USC 103 (a) based on Carter, Lloyd and Barker, an inventor in the field of surveillance cameras would likewise be unlikely to consult or to be aware of a consult or to be aware of a dealer information transmitter system in Class 34/539.17 such as Carter's, or a lightning detection system in Class 348/159 such as Barker's. He would therefore not be motivated to combine the Carter, Lloyd and Barker references with Schofield. Those references themselves contain no suggestion to combine them.

14. Further regarding the obviousness objections to Claim 19 under 35 USC 103 (a) based on Carter, Lloyd, Barker and Schofield, the Lloyd disclosure is more recent than the current application in November 2001 even if the effect date for Lloyd goes back beyond its actual publication in September 2003 to a deemed date as of its filing in April 2002.

15. It is respectfully submitted therefore that all, or in the alternative, various of the outstanding Claims as amended be allowed.

Yours very truly,



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